/[illegible] cont./

[illegible]

[illegible]

Ill. 43. Masai woman with [illegible].

[illegible] The only European article that one sees now and then, but still always rarely, is the umbrella, which the Masai use as protection against the sun.

[illegible] Rather tanned animal skins still today, occupy first place in the clothing. The preparation of the skins that are not supposed to have the fur removed (exception capes and leather to sit on) is a primitive element [illegible]. The skins are stretched out and thoroughly dried. Then they are rubbed several times with butter or fat and usually beaten each time. Softening the skins is known as little as is removing the superfluous fat clinging to them at the end of the treatment. The finished leather feels greasy and soft.

/108 trans./

283| The other skins, after they have been well dried and /137/ dehaired by scraping with a sharp ax, are tanned by a vigorous rubbing with [314] a tanning extract. The bark of Terminalia Brownii Fresen var. Merkeri Engl. (ol kuppi) is pounded and made into an extract by being boiled in water. The finished leather is soft and pliable. [462] Leather dressing is women's work. The scraped-off cattle hair is carefully hidden in the thorn fence of the kraal, so that the cattle do not eat it and become sick from it.

291| The main article of clothing of the warriors is the skin cape [294] (o naigeli, naigelin). It consists of calf skins sewed together into a strip approximately 110 centimeters long and 64 centimeters wide. The entire strip of skin is folded over once crosswise, and of its four corners the two top ones, lying one on the other, are sewed or tied together. One puts the cape on by sticking the head and left arm through the hole so that the right shoulder, chest, back, and left hip are covered, left shoulder and right hip bare; the latter so that [294] the sword found there is free. The warrior cape is the only article of clothing that is never dehaired. The hair side is worn on the outside and, if carefully chosen in color, is often quite attractive, since only the silky-lustrous skin of unborn calves or a [294] day or two old are used. Often the upper and lower edges of the cape are sewed with one or two rows of small red or white [301] beads. Only very rarely is it also made of other skins than the calf; I saw two made out of that of the dark-green long-tailed monkey (Cercopithecus albigularis). Boys and men often tied over the seat to the sword belt a three-cornered piece of leather to sit on (Fig. 58) (ol [illegible], il [illegible]), made of cow's hide as cushion, for protection when sitting against the thorns and prickly spikes of the grasses scattered everywhere in the steppe. Boys wear a very short cape (ol [illegible], il [illegible]), covering only the belly and back;

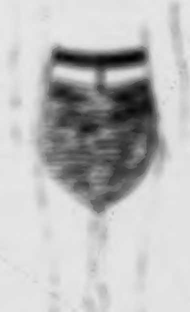


Fig. 58

/p.27 cont./

29 married men wear a similarly cut, but considerably longer cape, which is called ol [illegible] ([illegible]) and usually, but not always, is undecorated. For protection against the often sharp cold, especially in the rainy season, the warrior wears no other article of clothing, but, while sitting, simply draws the cape also over the left shoulder and -- the arm. The ol [illegible] is made by a sister or the favorite girl of the ol [illegible]. The clothing of the women is not quite as simple, but also is certainly not luxurious. It consists of two large leather aprons made out of goatskins sewed together. The lower one (ol [illegible], ol [illegible]) is put around the hips and stuck fast by means of a tucked-in corner, or held fast with a leather belt (ol [illegible], a [illegible]) embroidered in a zigzag pattern with coloured beads. The other, upper one (ol [illegible], ol [illegible]) is knotted on the right shoulder and /[illegible]/ leaves the left shoulder and left breast free. The upper garment is rarely decorated with a few beads, the lower one almost always. Most common is a row of small coloured beads running around the lower edge; often too the inserted patches have beads sewed around them. Old men and [illegible] boys and girls during the healing of the circumcision wounds wear an apron that has the same form as the upper garment of the women, but a considerably greater length. It is called ol [illegible] (ol [illegible]) and, depending on its wearer, is designated as ol [illegible] l ol [illegible], ol [illegible] l ol [illegible], ol [illegible] l ol [illegible]. Among the men it is knotted at hip and shoulder on the right side, among the girls /it appears here/ fastened under the arms with a strap and around the hips with a belt, whereas by the ol [illegible] it is mostly slung around the body cape-fashion.

The sandal (Fig. 90) in its customary shape (ol [illegible], a [illegible]) forms the footwear for all without distinction as to sex and age. It is made from the thick back-hide of the bullock.

30 As among all primitive peoples, the richness of the ornamentation stands in contrast to the simple clothing. This is most marked among the warriors and the young women.

[illegible] /[p. 90 cont.]/
another skin is sewed on the seam going from the tip around the back. Most common are the caps out of lion manes (ol [illegible] [illegible] or ol [illegible] = lion) or the skin of the baboon (ol [illegible]), Papio cynocephalus, resembling it almost perfectly in appearance. Furthermore they use the skin of the leopard (ol [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] = spotted), Indian leopard (Cynaelurus guttatus, ol /[illegible]/ [illegible] [illegible] = calf-devourer), serval (Felis serval, ol [illegible] = biter, he only bites the goats and sucks their blood), Colobus monkey, jackal, and hyena dog (ol [illegible] [illegible]). A strap holds the cap fast under the chin. The warrior sews the cap himself. Awl (ol [illegible], ol [illegible] (Fig. 41)) and a twisted cattle tendon (ol [illegible]) serve as needle and thread for all needlework. Another cap worn by warriors, boys and older men has the shape of a baby's bonnet (Figs. 40 a and b); it is made out of the honeycomb of a head of cattle and often adorned on the edges with small beads.

301

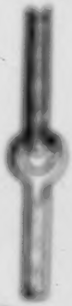


Fig. 41 a

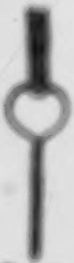
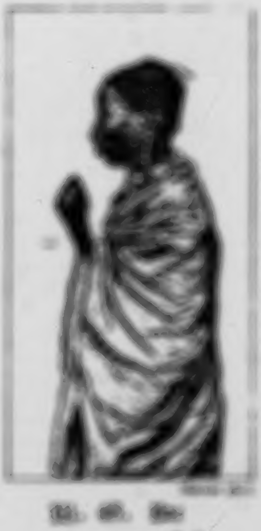


Fig. 41 b


[illegible]

Ill. 40. The ornament of the warrior.

[301]

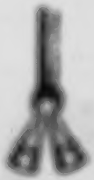


Fig. 41 c

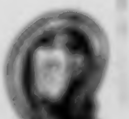


Fig. 40